



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Mark Levy
HINMAN, HOWARD & KATTELL, LLP
80 Exchange Street
P.O. Box 5250
BINGHAMTON NY 13901

MAILED
MAR 26 2012
OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 5,623,778 :
Issue Date: April 29, 1997 :
Application No. 08/492,935 :
Filed: June 21, 1995 :
Attorney Docket No. **SIE-167** :

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

A renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.378(b) was filed July 14, 2011, to accept the unavoidably delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

Petitioner should submit the requested information within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this letter. Extensions of time may not be obtained. No additional fee is due for a response to the instant request for information. The response to this Requirement for Information should include a cover letter entitled "Response to Request for Information." The failure to file a reply to the instant Request for Information will be interpreted as a desire to no longer pursue reinstatement of the patent and the Office will give no further consideration to the matter.

As the petition is not signed by all the inventors and the record herein fails to disclose that petitioner herein (David Hallam) was ever given a power of attorney to act on behalf of the other inventors, **or that he is an assignee of the entire interest and has complied with the provisions of 37 CFR 3.73(b)**, the petition is considered to not contain a proper statement of unintentional delay. As it appears that Mr. David Hallam is signing on behalf of an assignee, compliance with 37 CFR 3.73(b) must be satisfied. In this regard, 37 CFR 3.73(b) provides:

- (1) In order to request or take action in a patent or trademark matter, the assignee must establish its ownership of the patent or trademark property of paragraph (a) of this section to the satisfaction of the Director. The establishment of ownership by the assignee may be combined with the paper that requests or takes

the action. Ownership is established by submitting to the Office a signed statement identifying the assignee, accompanied by either:

(i) Documentary evidence of a chain of title from the original owner to the assignee (e.g., copy of an executed assignment * * * For patent matters only, the submission of the documentary evidence must be accompanied by a statement affirming that the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was or concurrently is being submitted for recordation pursuant to § 3.11; or

(ii) A statement specifying where documentary evidence of a chain of title from the original owner to the assignee is recorded in the assignment records of the Office (e.g., reel and frame number).

(2) The submission establishing ownership must show that the person signing the submission is a person authorized to act on behalf of the assignee by:

(i) Including a statement that the person signing the submission is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee; or

(ii) Being signed by a person having apparent authority to sign on behalf of the assignee, *e.g.*, an officer of the assignee.

(c) For patent matters only:

(1) Establishment of ownership by the assignee must be submitted prior to, or at the same time as, the paper requesting or taking action is submitted.

(2) If the submission under this section is by an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest, such assignee must indicate the extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest, or the Office may refuse to accept the submission as an establishment of ownership.

In view of the above, and as it appears that Mr. David Hallam is signing the instant petition as an assignee, then compliance with 37 CFR 3.73(b) must be satisfied. A blank certificate under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed with this decision for petitioner's convenience.

37 CFR 1.378(b)(3) states that any petition to accept delayed payment of a maintenance fee must include:

"A showing that the delay was unavoidable since reasonable care was taken to ensure that the maintenance fee would be paid timely and that the petition was filed promptly after the

patentee was notified of, or otherwise became aware of, the expiration of the patent. The showing must enumerate the steps taken to ensure timely payment of the maintenance fee, the date, and the manner in which patentee became aware of the expiration of the patent, and the steps taken to file the petition promptly.”

Petitioner must provide a document showing of the steps petitioner had in place to ensure timely payment of the maintenance fee.

While the showing of record is not sufficient to establish to the satisfaction of the Director that the delay was unavoidable, the showing of record is sufficient to establish that the entire delay in filing the petition was unintentional. Petitioner **may consider filing a renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c) to accept the delayed payment as being unintentional.**

The file does not indicate a change of address has been submitted, although the address given on the petition differs from the address of record. If appropriate, a change of address should be filed in accordance with MPEP 601.03. A courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the address given on the petition; however, the Office will mail all future correspondence solely to the address of record

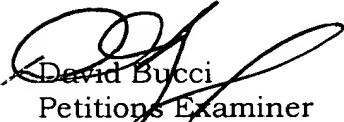
Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By Mail: Mail Stop PETITION
 Commissioner for Patents
 Post Office Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By hand: U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
 Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Petitions
 Randolph Building
 401 Dulany Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

The centralized facsimile number is (571) 273-8300.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to JoAnne Burke at (571) 272-4584.


David Bucci
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

Enclosure: A blank certificate under 37 CFR 3.73(b)

cc: David Hallam
289 NW 68th Avenue
Ocala, FL 34482